

PUBLIC LEDGER.

Office, No. 18 Madison Street.

LARGEST CITY CIRCULATION.

Decline of the French Drama—A New and Lascivious Play—Analysis of the Plot and Scenes.

Nothing indicates the fast decline of the French drama as much as the growing favor which plays composed in lascivious and equivocal scenes meet on the Parisian stage. The Palais Royal Theater now gives, every evening, a small comedy named *Madame est comédie* (Madam is in bed), which always throws the audience into ecstasies of delight, and the contents of which are as follows: Chazonnier, a bourgeois, is married to a charming young wife, but keeps, of course, a mistress. He has just visited the latter, and comes home at a very unreasonable hour, his wife having gone to the opera ball with her lover, and Georgette, the maid, has amused herself with the footman in her mistress' bedroom. Her consternation may be imagined when Chazonnier enters the house. He wants to penetrate into her bedroom. Georgette, in a somewhat disordered toilet, places herself against the door. "You cannot come in," she exclaims. "Madame is in bed. Madame has the sick headache." Chazonnier then sits down and says he wants his supper. What is the girl to do to get rid of him? She tries to persuade him that he has had a rash of blood to his head, and ought to bathe his feet. Chazonnier, however, replies that he feels first-rate, and that he wants her to admit him to his wife's bedroom. At her wife's ends, Georgette kneels down before him and exclaims: "Have mercy on me, master! I love you dearly, and am jealous of your wife." Chazonnier is not averse to a tender *a-tete* with the pretty girl. But what if his wife should catch him in *flagrante delicto*? To protect himself from any unpleasant interruption, he locks the door of her bedroom and puts the key in his pocket. At the same moment the opposite door opens, and Georgette perceives a domino. She says she feels very ill, snatches the key from Chazonnier, and asks him to fetch her *eau de Cologne*. Meanwhile, Madame slips softly into her bedroom. Chazonnier returns with *eau de Cologne*, but Madame rings her bell, and the husband, cursing her for interrupting him, enters the bedroom. All this is played with a thousand obscene innuendoes, but the Parisians enjoy it most heartily.

Hell-Fire in His Pocket.
The *Banner of Light* tells the following story of a Universalist minister who attended a convention of his brethren in a new village in the wilderness, where malaria and the diseases incident thereto abounded. He took the precaution to carry a vial of cayenne in his pocket, to sprinkle his food with as a preventive to fever and ague. The convention met, and at dinner the Universalist minister observed the parson as he seasoned his meat, and addressed him thus:

"Stranger, I'll thank you for a little of that red salt, for I'm kind of curious to try it."

"Certainly," returned the parson, "but you will find it very powerful; be careful how you use it."
The hostess took the proffered vial, and, feeling him and proof against any quantity of raw whisky, thought he could stand the red salt with impunity, and accordingly sprinkled a junk of beef rather bountifully with it, and forthwith introduced it into his capacious mouth. It soon began to take hold. He shut his eyes, and his features began to writhe, denoting a very inharmonious condition physically. He opened his mouth and screamed fire.

"Take a drink of cold water," said the parson.
"Will that put it out?" asked the martyr, suiting the action to the word. In a short time the unfortunate man began to recover, and turning to the parson, his eyes yet swimming in water, exclaimed:

"Stranger, you call yourself a Universalist, I believe?"

"I do," mildly answered the parson.

"Well, I want to know if you think it consistent with your belief to go about with hell-fire in your breeches pockets?"

How to Manage Female Editors.
Speaking of the recent mutiny of women employed at the cigar manufactory at Madrid, the *Epoca* gives the following humorous description of the line of action pursued by a certain director of one of these establishments in a similar emergency:

"The women having quit work, left the manufactory in a body, and with menacing gestures and shouts, hastened toward the office of the director. The tumult reaching the ears of the latter, he asked what it meant."

"The hands have mutinied, and have come to demand—"

"What?"

"Justice from your excellency. The whole of them insist upon coming in to see you, and they declare they will come in by force if you won't admit them otherwise."

It was a difficult dilemma. The director reflected. At length he exclaimed: "Good! Go and tell them I am ready to receive them."

"Yes, sir."

"But as there are so many of them, I cannot see them all. They must delegate three of their number for the interview."

The messenger was about to retire with the decision, when the director cried after him: "Wait a minute; the three delegates must be the three oldest and ugliest of the lot."

Strange to say, the director never received the deputation.

Responding to the Judge.
The New Orleans *Picayune* says the Judge of one of the New Orleans municipal courts sat gloomy and grand on his bench of emerald. The prisoner occupied the dock, apparently meek and downcast. She had a merry twinkle in her eye, however, that promised mischief, and had the magnate but perceived it, he would have been more careful in his questions.

"How many times are you coming up here?"

"What, yer honor?"

"Didn't I see you here yesterday?"

"Why, yer honor, it was last night yer seed me, in the concert saloon. It was a bit of drink we had together, and yer did talk beautifully with yer cunning ways and saucy jokes. Aye, yer honor's the man for the girls. The devil admire ye, but ye are smart."

"Stop yer mouth—you can go."

"Thank ye, yer honor."

The prisoner went out, the Judge blushed, and the audience roared.

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Plows, Plow Irons,

Handicaps, Beams, Rounds,

Iron and Steel Bolts,

Five sets Blacksmith Tools,

Several Stoves,

One 10-Horse Power Portable Engine and

Boller,

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and a large lot of

Miscellaneous Articles.

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Boller, which will be sold on a credit of sixty

days, with good security.

Sale will commence at 10 a.m.

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